Outstanding P F dues of CIWC

1853. SHRI S. MUTHU MANI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Regional Fund Commissioner has decided to freeze the bank accounts of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation (CIWTC) on the charge that it has defaulted on the payment of Provident Fund dues to its employees;

(b) if so, whether the RPFCs are planning to take such stringent action against organisation in the private sector as well, who defaulted on the payment of Provident Fund dues; and

(c) how many complaints have been received by the RPF Commissioners in respect of organisations in the private sector which defaulted on the payment of Provident Fund dues as on date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Legal and penal action as provided under the EPF & MP Act is taken by the RPFCs against all the defaulting establishments' including those in the private sector.

(c) As on 31-3-94, 10321 establishments in the private sector had defaulted in payment of the Provident Fund contributions.

Centre-state machinery to study impact of new export policy on child labour

1854. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increased emphasis on exports has led to increase in child labour;

(b) whether Government are considering proposals to ensure that child-labourers are paid the same wages as adults; and

(c) whether a joint Centre-State welfare machinery is being set up to study the impact of the export policy on child labour and also to ensure effective implementation of the child labour laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No such data is available.

(b) Yes, Sir. Government is contemplating to amend Section 3(3)(a) (iii) of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 to ensure that child labourers also get the same minimum wages as their adult counterparts.

(c) No, sir.

Vacant Posts of Regional Provident Fund Commissioners

1855. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) how many posts of Regional Provident Fund Commissioners are lying vacant in the country;

(b) what action is being taken to fill up these posts;

(c) whether the work of recovery has suffered due to non-filling of these posts; and

(d) what is being done to step up the recovery work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) 2.

(b) The requisite action to fill up the vacant posts on ad hoc basis has already been initiated by the EPF Organisation.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Necessary action as provided under section 8B, 8G of the Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act is already being taken to step up the recovery work.